

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 AGR-05 SP-02 SAJ-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 COME-00

/043 W

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R 161109 JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8772

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, UR

SUBJ: FOOD SUPPLIES KHABAROVSK AND NAKHODKA

1. BEGIN SUMMARY AND COMMENT. DAO VISITED KHABAROVSK AND NAKHODKA JANUARY 9-13 AND CHECKED STATE STORES AND A MARKET FOR AVAILABILITY AND COST OF SELECTED FOOD ITEMS. IN NEITHER CITY WAS MUTTON OR CHICKEN AVAILABLE AND VEGETABLES WERE VIRTUALLY NON-EXISTENT. PORK, EGGS AND BUTTER WERE GENERALLY UNAVAILABLE IN NAKHODKA BUT GOOD SUPPLIES WERE IN EVIDENCE IN KHABAROVSK. BEEF WAS SPORADICALLY AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT. AN ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF WHITE AND BROWN BREAD OF FIRST AND SECOND SORT WAS AVAILABLE IN BOTH CITIES. THE PRIMARY SOURCE OF PROTEIN APPEARED TO BE PROVIDED BY GOOD SUPPLIES OF DRIED AND FRESH FISH OBSERVED. OBSERVATIONS MADE AT MID-DAY. EMBASSY HAS NO BASIS ON WHICH TO JUDGE WHETHER SUPPLY SITUATION REFLECTED SEASONAL SHORTAGES OR WAS RESULT OF 1975 AGRICULTURAL SHORTFALL. END SUMMARY AND COMMENT.

2. KHABAROVSK. STATE STORE ON KARL MARX STREET AND OTHERS CHECKED OFFERED GOOD QUALITY BEEF AT 2.50 K AND PORK AT 2.00K IN FAIRLY GOOD QUANTITIES. ADEQUATE SUPPLIES OF EGGS AT 1.40 FOR 10 AND BUTTER AT 3.50 K WERE AVAILABLE. NO MUTTON, CHICKEN OR PORK FAT WAS OBSERVED. BREAD SUPPLIES WERE ADEQUATE.

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PLENTIFUL SUPPLIES OF FRESH FISH WERE NOTED.

3. NAKHODKA. STATE STORE 45 AND OTHERS CHECKED HAD POOR QUALITY BEEF AT 2.15 K AND PORK FAT AT 1.80 K AVAILABLE IN LIMITED QUANTITIES. LITTLE OR NO PROK, MUTTON, CHICKEN, EGGS OR BUTTER WAS NOTED. GOOD SUPPLIES OF A VARIETY OF FRESH FISH WERE AVAILABLE. BREAD STORES APPEARED ADEQUATELY STOCKED. THE MARKET OFFERED NO MEAT OF ANY KIND AND ONLY LIMITED SUPPLIES OF EGGS AND POOR QUALITY VEGETABLES, DRIED FRUIT AND NUTS. HOWEVER IT WAS VISITED AT MID-DAY AND MAY NOT HAVE BEEN A REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLING.
MATLOCK

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, FOOD SHORTAGE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MOSCOW00652
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D760017-0681
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760193/aaaagehi.tel
Line Count: 77
Locator: TEXT ON MICROFILM, TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <12 MAY 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 970919
Subject: FOOD SUPPLIES KHABAROVSK AND NAKHODKA
TAGS: PINT, UR
To: LENINGRAD
STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006